Reviewer’s report

**Title:** TEX9 and eIF3b Functionally Synergize to Promote the Progression of Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 31 May 2019

**Reviewer:** Chang-Han Chen

**Reviewer's report:**

1. The upregulated and downregulated proteins were selected by using 1.5-fold change and p<0.05 in overexpressing- and depleted eIF3b ESCC cells. The verified protein list was shown in supplementary Table 1. However, the supplementary table 1 was a antibody list which used in the manuscript. Please show the protein list in the manuscript.

2. Please have a rationale that TEX9 was chosen for the study.

3. In figure 1C, what is the "normal control"? For overexpressing system, the control should be vehicle (or vector alone). For knockdown system, the control should be siRNA-control or sh-vector. This two system should be use different control.

4. Please quantitate the protein level in figure 2A.

5. In figure 3B and C, please show the full images.

6. In figure 3D, the analyzed cell numbers were not the same among these groups. It should be used the same (or similar) cell numbers to analyze the results.

7. In figure 4D, the full image should be presented.

8. Please verify these results in xenograft model.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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